Appl. No. 09/943,851
Response dated December 9, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 9, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-21 (Cancelled)

Claim 22 (Currently Amended) An <u>isolated</u> antibody that <u>specifically</u> binds to <u>an epitope of the a polypeptide</u> shown in Figure 18 (SEQ ID NO: 42), <u>wherein said</u> polypeptide inhibits neoplastic growth in tumor cells and wherein specifically binding said epitope prevents inhibition of neoplastic growth in tumor cells.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented) The antibody of Claim 22 which is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented) The antibody of Claim 22 which is a humanized antibody.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) <u>A fragment of the The</u> antibody of Claim 22, which is an antibody fragment wherein the fragment binds the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 42.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented) The antibody of Claim 22 which is labeled.

Claim 27 (Cancelled)

Please add the following new claims:

Claim 28 (New) A method for identifying a polypeptide that inhibits neoplastic growth in tumor cells comprising contacting a tissue sample with the antibody of Claim 22; and detecting binding of said antibody to said polypeptide.

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Claim 29 (New) The method of Claim 28, wherein said detecting binding of said antibody to said polypeptide comprises:

forming a conjugated antibody by labeling the antibody of Claim 22 with a moiety detectable by a detection means,

administering a detectably effective amount of the conjugated antibody to a solution, suspension, cell, cell population, tissue, organ, or organism, and thereafter using a detection means to determine the presence or absence of the polypeptide.

Claim 30 (New) A method for purifying a polypeptide that inhibits neoplastic growth in tumor cells comprising:

immobilizing the antibody of Claim 22 on a suitable support; contacting the antibody with a sample containing the polypeptide; washing the immobilized antibody with a first solvent, suitable to remove material that is not the polypeptide; and

washing the immobilized antibody with a second solvent, suitable to remove the polypeptide from the antibody.